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MEMORANDUM

May 16, 1994

TO: Ambassador Albright
THRU: Ambassador Gnehm
FROM: POL - Robert T. Grey *RG*
SUBJECT: May 16 Council Informals on Rwanda

Background

The USG's proposal is for UNAMIR to establish a secure zone inside Rwanda along the border with Burundi to protect refugees and displaced persons in the most immediate danger and provide security for the delivery of humanitarian relief. The augmented force would deploy to Burundi and establish a base of operations in Burundi near the Rwandan border. It would then conduct cross-border operations to secure and establish displaced persons UNHCR-run camps within Rwanda, and provide continuous security for the operation of those camps. The force would establish the camps' security, but not transport displaced persons to the camps. The force would also secure lines of communication and relief convoys in the zone.

The Rules of Engagement would clearly spell out the authority of the UN Force Commander to defend the humanitarian mission to include UN forces, camps and displaced persons being protected.

Russian position: PR Vorontsov is unhappy about the wording of operative para 2(a), and wants to change "as appropriate" to "where feasible." Moscow reportedly criticized Vorontsov for the quality of the draft resolution.

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(U) Suggested Talking Points

-- My government is pleased with the progress made last week on this Resolution.

-- It is important for the Council to act quickly on Rwanda.

-- As Ambassador Inderfurth stated on Friday, the U.S. government has some reservations about the concept of operations outlined in the Secretary General's report released Friday afternoon.

-- In order to address these issues, we have met with members of the Secretariat about the practical measures needed to carry out the Council's mandate.

-- Based on these discussions, we have several proposed revisions to the draft resolution which we believe will allow us to quickly move some personnel back into Rwanda, while at the same time give us an opportunity to better refine the UN's concept of operations.

TC
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